



July 7, 2004

Defendant wanted in Portugal is ordered extradited

A federal magistrate judge in Providence has ordered **Carlos Manuel Da Silva Claudino** extradited to Portugal to face drug-trafficking charges. Deputy U.S. Marshals arrested Claudino last month in East Providence.

The Office of the United States Attorney announced the extradition order, which Magistrate Judge David L. Martin issued yesterday in U.S. District Court, Providence, after Claudino waived his right to an extradition hearing.

Claudino, 51, who was living at 650 North Broadway, East Providence, has been detained at the Wyatt Federal Detention Center, Central Falls, since his arrest. He will remain detained while the U.S. State Department makes a final determination on his extradition.

According to a complaint drafted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lee H. Vilker, the Criminal Court of Ponta Delgada, Azores, Portugal, issued a warrant for Claudino's arrest in February 2001. Portuguese officials allege that, between May 1999 and December 2000, Claudino operated a trafficking operation that smuggled hashish and heroin from the Portuguese mainland to the Azores Islands. In October 2000, Portuguese authorities intercepted a shipment of 12,300 kilograms of hashish that they allege was to have been delivered to Claudino.

On the basis of the complaint, a federal magistrate judge in Providence issued a warrant for Claudino's arrest. Deputy Marshals arrested him on June 14 at a restaurant on Warren Avenue, East Providence.

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